



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Pittsburgh District

News Release

Public Affairs Office
1000 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release No. 05-010SY

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OUTFLOW WARNING SYSTEM TESTING

[YOUGHIOGHENY RIVER LAKE](#) – The US Army Corps of Engineers, in cooperation with D/R Hydro Company, will be testing the audible warning system in the outflow area below the dam during the week of January 10. The audible warning system is activated when flows from the dam and hydropower plant are increased. The warning alerts fishermen that the water level downstream of the dam will be rising fairly rapidly a few minutes after the alarm is sounded so that those wading in the river can respond appropriately.

The testing is being conducted to determine the effectiveness of the system and to identify possible enhancements to it. A number of factors, including wind direction and competing sounds from trains, automobiles, and the water flowing in the river, influence the effectiveness of the warning system. Project personnel will conduct the test on a day when the releases from the dam are fairly high. Currently, we expect to begin testing the morning of Wednesday, January 12th and conclude by early afternoon. During the testing, local residents and visitors to the area downstream of Youghiogheny Dam can expect to hear the audible warning more often than usual and at closer intervals than usual as different volumes and speaker adjustments are evaluated. During the testing flows will not actually increase. Corps personnel will be stationed at various downstream locations to monitor the tests.

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